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1. Although there are many ways of obtaining technical and scientific information from non-Communist countries, this field seems to be completely neglected by the present Czechoslovak Government. An example was [] mission in the US which proved its complete inability to profit from the achieved technical and scientific progress in the US and to get scientific information and know-how of the US. Actually there was nobody at the consulate or embassy to follow technical publications or simply to send them to Prague. The commercial office in New York sometimes sent to Prague catalogues of various merchandise, in order to illustrate the quality, modernization and improvements of household articles, refrigerators, industrial dust cleaners, heating appliances in factories, etc.) [] most of these publications, clippings and leaflets lying unused in various closets in the basement of the ministry. Some of them, the best, had reached the respective foreign trade company, but they never went to the places they were supposed to go, namely to plants and factories.
2. [] until the present time no particular steps have been taken to obtain technical information. On very rare occasions in New York [] asked by Prague to buy a certain book or scientific periodical. The complete subordination of the entire life of the country to the Soviet "pattern" leads also in the scientific field to an almost complete isolation from Western science and results in great losses to advanced Czechoslovak science.

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how badly they feel the lack of new Western and especially US medical publications. Even periodicals have been cut off. And this was not caused by the lack of currency, but exclusively by a blind subordination and servility to everything Soviet, including its science. According to prevailing regulations all foreign periodicals are to be ordered only through the Orbis Ltd, Prague.

3. Not even [redacted] the [redacted] find any indications to commercial departments abroad to gather technical and scientific information. [redacted] whether some national corporation or foreign trade company was extensively used for this purpose. [redacted] a new organization was recently added to foreign trade companies, and has already changed its name two or three times. [redacted] the last one was something like "Technopol" (this could be established from the list of foreign trade companies published regularly in the "Czechoslovak Exporter" or "Zahraniční obchod"). There was not much known at the Ministry of Foreign Trade about Technopol's activity, at least not in its western territorial departments. This company was created by a governmental decree in July 1950, but its actual activity did not start before the end of 1950. The Technopol's first employees came from Kovo which at the same time underwent a reorganization dividing it into three companies independent from each other: Kovo, manufacturing light engineering, industrial and electrical equipment, headed by Ing. Vladimír Štoky; Motokov, manufacturing various motors, automobiles, aircraft, motorcycles, bicycles, ammunition, etc., and Investa, for import and export of so-called "investment goods". The Investa was considered the most important foreign trade company, mainly for its trade relations with the USSR and satellite countries. First Investa's head for several months was the First Deputy of the Foreign Trade Minister, Jan Soucek, who was eventually replaced by Ing. Sirucek. Sirucek did not stay too long and was later replaced by a third person. [redacted] Technopol was actually the fourth part of the former Kovo. [redacted]

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[redacted] It does not seem improbable though. Its official tasks, however, were formulated as follows: to buy and sell domestic and foreign patents and licenses; to buy and sell technical plans, blue-prints and "recipes" for various goods production, and the technical know-how. [redacted] Technopol did not have a representative in the US. At the present time the majority of Technopol's activities are with the Soviet bloc countries, but the plan for creation of such a foreign trade company was initiated a long time ago, in 1949, when there were still some hopes and prospects for better trade relations with the west.

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4. [redacted] some time ago some offices were established in all satellite countries for the exchange of technical and scientific information. [redacted] At the time the Technopol was created, some 80 highly qualified engineers from Kovo, Škoda and Central Research Institute, were assigned to duty with this company. This might also have some bearing on its possible intelligence or espionage activities.

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5. [redacted] that if there is a board of three persons, consisting of, on paper, as it is rather difficult to determine exactly what is invested with the entire authority to act in behalf of the company, general manager, [redacted] [redacted], [redacted]

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collective responsibility in all production and trade ended, this in Czechoslovakia was originally established in 1946. I do not know the name of Technospol's general manager.

6. The agency referred to as "Technical Document Center" ("Technicke Documentace Stredisko") was established as an independent institution in 1942 or 1950. This was previously a technical archive of Ceskoslovenske Zavody Kovodelne a Strojizmenske, the Czech largest nationalized heavy industrial combine which included Skoda Works, OKB and many others. After completed reorganization, when huge and bureaucratically administered combines were broken into smaller national corporations, the Technical Document Center was separated from its parent organization and attached to the Vysoka Skola Technicka (Highest Technical School on university level, since Czechoslovak universities do not have technical faculties or special Engineering Colleges). The Center, however, is not subordinated to the above schools, and works more or less independently.
7. The Technical Document Center was originally established in 1946 as a part of Ceskoslovenske Zavody Kovodelne, but at that time it was a normal technical documentation department of an industrial corporation. Today it has a nation-wide importance, since all collected domestic and foreign technical and scientific information is channeled to this institution. Formerly it was located in Prague II, Jungmannova ulice, and now it has its offices in the old university building, in Clementinum. [] many complaints that, although it collects technical and scientific information, this agency disseminates very little, if any, and that it is of no use to industrial and production enterprises. On the other hand [] due to somewhat chaotic conditions existing in nationalized production enterprises, they are not using fully the services of TDC. [] the TPC [] gets technical publications through [] legations and consulates, as well as through Technospol. This service is still very poorly organized, for even the leading scientists in Czechoslovakia today have practically no access to foreign literature directly, or indirectly through TDC or Technospol. [] all scientific literature in Czechoslovakia today must be procured through the USSR, where this literature is "ideologically" screened and adjusted for consumption in satellite countries, insuring thus always a tighter dependability on the USSR. This could also be a reason for the maintaining of offices of the Czechoslovak Planning Bureau for Scientific Cooperation in Moscow.
8. The Czechoslovak Center of Research (Ceskoslovenske Ustredi Vyzkumu) has several departments and falls under the supervision of the State Planning Bureau. During the last year, it was headed by the well-known Communist economist Dr Jaroslav Fukatko. He visited the US in 1949 and was known there as a close friend and associate of Dr Goldmann and Ludvik Frejka, both Oxford-trained economists. When Rudolf Slansky was in power this group was removed from top positions, but now with Gottwald in power, these individuals could be reinstated in their previous positions. They were technical creators of the first Czechoslovak Two Year Plan, and later of the Five Year Plan. At present Ludvik Frejka is the head of the economic department of the presidential office of Gottwald. Jaroslav Fukatko is now gravely ill, but [] this is a kind of "political" illness. [] the Center [] of Research [] was several times strongly attacked by the Communist Party for its adherence to the Western ideology.

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